

CLAIMS

1. An ice painting device for use with a source of paint for painting an ice surface, wherein the source of paint includes a source outlet and a closeable valve for selectively closing a flow of paint from the source outlet, comprising:
 - a wand for holding by an operator;
 - a conduit system associated with the wand for transporting the paint, the conduit system defining a passage having a passage inlet and a passage outlet, wherein the passage inlet is fluidically connectable to the source outlet,
- 5 wherein the conduit system is configured to provide fluid flow characteristics selected so that when the valve is closed, paint is substantially prevented from flowing through the passage outlet; and
 - a pad positionable immediately downstream from the passage outlet, wherein the pad is configured to receive paint from the passage outlet,
- 10 wherein the pad has an ice contact face for distributing paint onto the ice surface.
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2. A painting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the passage outlet comprises at least one outlet aperture, each outlet aperture having a sufficiently small cross-sectional area so that when paint blocks the entirety of the cross-sectional area, air is prevented from flowing upstream into the conduit system.
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3. A painting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conduit system is configured to permit gravity flow of paint therethrough from the source of paint when the valve is open.
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4. A painting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pad is made of a material having an open structure, wherein the ice contact face defines a footprint and has an ice-contact surface area that is substantially smaller than the footprint.
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5. A painting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pad is removably connectable to the wand.
6. A painting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wand includes a
5 first body portion and a second body portion, which are separable from each other to expose portions of the passage.
7. A painting device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the conduit system
10 comprises a hose having a hose inlet and a hose outlet, wherein the hose outlet communicates with a chamber defined in part by the first body portion and in part by the second body portion, and wherein the first and second body portions are separable to expose the chamber.
8. A painting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wand includes a
15 first body portion and a first painting head, wherein the pad is a first pad is configured for painting a line having a first width and wherein the first pad is connected to the first painting head, and wherein the painting device further includes a second painting head wherein the second painting head is connectable with the first body portion, and wherein the second painting head
20 has a second pad mounted thereto, wherein the second pad is configured for painting a line having a second width.
9. A painting device for painting an ice surface, comprising:
a container for holding paint to paint an ice surface, wherein the
25 container has a container outlet;
a wand for holding by an operator;
a conduit system associated with the wand for transporting the paint, the conduit system defining a passage having a passage inlet and a passage outlet, wherein the passage inlet is fluidically connectable to the container
30 outlet;

a valve positioned in the conduit system upstream from the passage outlet, wherein the valve is selectively closeable to prevent a flow of paint therewith; and

5 a pad positionable immediately downstream from the passage outlet, wherein the pad is configured to receive paint from the passage outlet, wherein the pad has an ice contact face for distributing paint onto the ice surface,

10 wherein the portion of the conduit system that is downstream from the valve is configured to provide fluid flow characteristics selected so that when the valve is closed, paint is substantially prevented from flowing through the passage outlet.

15 10. A painting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the passage outlet comprises at least one outlet aperture, each outlet aperture having a sufficiently small cross-sectional area so that when paint blocks the entirety of the cross-sectional area, air is prevented from flowing upstream into the conduit system.

20 11. A painting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the conduit system is configured to permit gravity flow of paint therethrough from the source of paint when the valve is open.

12. A painting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the valve is connected to the container outlet.

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13. A painting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the pad is made of a material having an open structure, wherein the ice contact face defines a footprint and has an ice-contact surface area that is substantially smaller than the footprint.

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14. A painting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the pad is removably connectable to the wand.

15. A painting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the wand includes a first body portion and a second body portion, which are separable from each other to expose portions of the passage.

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16. A painting device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the conduit system comprises a hose having a hose inlet and a hose outlet, wherein the hose outlet communicates with a chamber defined in part by the first body portion and in part by the second body portion, and wherein the first and second body portions are separable to expose the chamber.

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17. A painting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the wand includes a first body portion and a first painting head, wherein the pad is a first pad is configured for painting a line having a first width and wherein the first pad is connected to the first painting head, and wherein the painting device further includes a second painting head wherein the second painting head is connectable with the first body portion, and wherein the second painting head has a second pad mounted thereto, wherein the second pad is configured for painting a line having a second width.

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18. An assembly for use with a painting device for marking an ice surface, the painting device including a container, a body portion, a hose and a valve, wherein the container is for holding paint to paint an ice surface, wherein the container has a container outlet, wherein the body portion is for holding by an operator, wherein the hose is connected downstream of the container outlet and wherein the hose is connected to the body portion, wherein the valve is positioned in the first passage portion, wherein the valve is selectively closeable to prevent a flow of paint therewith, wherein the assembly comprises:

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a painting head, wherein the painting head defines a chamber, wherein the painting head is removably connectable to the body portion such that the

chamber is downstream from the hose, wherein the chamber has an outlet; and

a pad, wherein the pad is removably connectable to the painting head immediately downstream from the outlet, wherein the pad is configured to

5 receive paint from the outlet, wherein the pad has an ice contact face for distributing paint onto the ice surface.

19. A painting device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the pad is made of a material having an open structure, wherein the ice contact face defines a

10 footprint and has an ice-contact surface area that is substantially smaller than the footprint.

20. A painting device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the pad is made of a fibrous material.